

REMARKS

The minor changes to the specification, claims and abstract have been made to overcome the objections and rejections set forth in the Office Action. Each of these will be addressed in the order presented in the Office Action.

In numbered paragraph 1 of the Office Action, the abstract is objected to because the word "downstream" in line 9 is not in relation to Figures 2 and 3. Applicants agree and the word "downstream" has been replaced by the word "upstream."

Regarding the claim rejections under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, set forth in paragraphs 2-5, claim 1 has been amended to substitute the word "upstream" for the word "downstream" in several locations. However, no change has been made to any of the 4 recitations of the word "second" in line 13 since these each appear to be consistent and accurate as they stand.

Similar changes have been made to claims 13 and 15 to substitute the word "upstream" for the word "downstream" in several locations.

Finally, claim 4 has been amended as suggested by the Examiner.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By: /William A. Blake/
William A. Blake
Reg. No. 30,548

JONES, TULLAR & COOPER, P.C.
P.O. Box 2266, Eads Station
Arlington, VA 22202
(703) 415-1500
Dated: June 27, 2006